## Approved For Release 2001/07/16: CIA-RDP79-00498A000700080042-0

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

Mr. Robert S. Ingersoll Chairman, NSC Under Secretaries Committee Department of State Washington, D. C. 20520

Dear Bob:

While perhaps a bit late, I feel compelled to register my concern over the decision to terminate the Foreign Affairs Executive Seminar (FAES). Based on the letters and memoranda that have been written regarding this course, it is evident that it serves a most useful purpose in the area of foreign affairs.

As you are aware, this Agency has taken an active role in the FAES, including 1/2-day sessions at the Agency during each running of the course. The critiques of CIA personnel who have taken the course have been overwhelmingly favorable, with the predominant assertion that the course provided an opportunity to mix with a widening spectrum of U.S. Government personnel engaged in foreign affairs and the opportunity to obtain a comprehensive view of foreign affairs from the Community standpoint. Because of the level of interest in the course and the importance we attach to it, our caliber of student has been high and our interest in continuing to have this exposure for our officers remains strong.

I am aware of the plans to hold meetings to discuss the strengths and weaknesses of FAES from the point of view of creating a new program. If it is not too late. I strongly urge that the FAES be continued at least for the balance of this fiscal year, which will provide time for a more in-depth review and tailoring of a substitute course, if indeed that is indicated.

Sincerely,

W. E. Colby Director



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## Remarks:

Sir:

In view of your interest in the Foreign Affairs Executive Seminar, I thought it appropriate for you to send a letter to Mr. Robert S. Ingersoll, Chairman, NSC Under Secretaries Committee.

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John F. Blake, DDA 7D-26 Hqs. x5454	
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